

**Nevada Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services,
Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA)
2006 Estimated Unmet Need for Treatment Nevada
December 2006**

The unmet need for substance abuse treatment by the citizens of Nevada is determined by estimating the total need for treatment and then subtracting the amount of need being met (treatment being provided). Although this formula is simple, determining the actual need for substance abuse treatment in Nevada is a difficult task.

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA) collects data about the number of treatment admissions to 61 SAPTA funded treatment sites in 26 towns and cities throughout the state. It also collects data about the number of clients that have to wait for admission to treatment because space is not available. During Calendar Year 2006, 2,226 people waited for admission to treatment services. They waited an average of 24 days.

The Agency does not collect data from the many private for-profit, federal, or tribal providers of substance abuse treatment because they are not required to report to the Agency. Therefore it is difficult to determine the amount of need being met outside the SAPTA funded treatment system. To solve this problem, the Agency has gathered the most recent data from the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Their Inventory of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (ISATS) system collects information from facilities of all types. Their National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS) is conducted once per year and collects information about facilities and client activity at those facilities on one day of the year, March 31. For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2004, SAMHSA collected information from 88 treatment providers in Nevada. Forty eight (48) of the providers were private non-profit, 25 were private for-profit, 5 were part of state or local government, 5 were part of the federal government, and 5 were tribal organizations. The Agency has also used the estimate of total need from SAMHSA's National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH; 2004) to complete the estimate. This survey is conducted biennially using statistically accurate sampling techniques. These 2004 data (the latest available at the time this fact sheet was prepared) were used to estimate the met and unmet need for SFY 2006.

As previously mentioned, SAPTA only collects data for Agency certified and funded programs. SAMHSA collects client data from SAPTA funded treatment providers as well as those not funded by SAPTA, for one day each year (March 31). Using the data from SAPTA funded providers, the ratio of total clients served in state fiscal year 2004 to the number of active clients on March 31, 2004 was obtained. This ratio was then used in conjunction with SAMHSA's active client data for March 31, 2004 in order to estimate the total number of clients served by treatment providers (whether funded by SAPTA or not) in SFY 2006 (Table 1). Statewide estimations were determined for four service levels which were then added to obtain the total served. The aforementioned process was repeated for adolescents 12 to 17 years of age. SAMHSA collapses adolescent treatment into two categories, outpatient and residential.

Table 1: Estimated Number of Individuals Served by All Nevada Treatment Facilities by Service Level (2004)

Service Type	SAPTA Funded Sites			All Nevada Sites (SAMHSA)	
	Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D	Column E
	No. SFY 2004 Active 3-31-04	No. of SFY 2004 Admissions	Ratio Active to Admissions (Col. B/Col. A)	No. Active 3-31-04	Estimated Clients Served (Col. C X Col. D)
All Ages					
Detoxification	28	2,790	99.6	64	6,374
Residential	441	2,743	6.2	813	5,040
Intensive Outpatient	236	1,010	4.3	672	2,890
Outpatient	1,886	5,399	2.9	6,786	19,679
Total	2,591	11,942		8,335	33,983
Adolescents (Ages 12 to 17)					
Residential	45	279	6.2	56	347
Outpatient	285	1,112	3.9	388	1,513
Total	330	1,391		444	1,860

The NSDUH has determined that there were a total of 180,000 individuals in need of treatment in Nevada in 2004 (included in this value is the 18,000 adolescent need). Using the estimated met need of 33,983 individuals from Table 1 and the estimated need of 180,000 from Table 2, the unmet need is 146,017 ($180,000 - 33,983 = 146,017$). Likewise, the adolescent unmet need is the estimated need of 18,000 minus the estimated met need of 1,860 which equals 16,140 (Table 2). These estimates contain a degree of error. **However, even if the calculation of met need is overly conservative and there are twice the estimated number of individuals being served both inside and outside the SAPTA funded system, the unmet need would be 112,034 ($180,000 - 67,966$), and the adolescent unmet need would be 14,280 ($18,000 - 3,720$).**

Table 2: Determination of Unmet Need Utilizing Calculated Estimates of Need and the Met Need (2006)

Age	Column A 2006 Population Estimate	Column B Estimated Need ¹	Column C Estimated Met Need From (Table 1)	Column D Estimated Unmet Need (Col. B – Col. C) ²	Column E Estimated Unmet Need Using Twice Met Need
12 -17	209,728	18,000	1,860	16,140	14,280
18 and Above	1,884,899	162,000	32,123	129,877	97,754
Total	2,094,627	180,000	33,983	146,017	112,034

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¹ Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 2004 State Estimates of Substance Use, <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k4/State/vars.htm>. Table A.20. "Percentage Reporting Past Year Dependence or Abuse for Any Illicit Drug or Alcohol among Persons Aged 12 or Older, by Age Group and State: 2004", April 2006.

² Although this is an estimate of the unmet need, it is understood that not all individuals with substance abuse/dependence issues will seek or be referred to treatment.